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1 AN ACT concerning transportation.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly: 3

- Section 5. The Toll Highway Act is amended by changing 4 5 Sections 10, 11, and 19 as follows:
- (605 ILCS 10/10) (from Ch. 121, par. 100-10) 6
- 7 Sec. 10. The Authority shall have power:
 - pass resolutions, make by-laws, regulations for the management, regulation and control of its affairs, and to fix tolls as provided in Section 19 of this Act, and to make, enact and enforce all needful rules and regulations in connection with the construction, operation, management, care, regulation or protection of its property or any toll highways, constructed or reconstructed hereunder.
 - (a-5) To fix, assess, and collect civil fines for a vehicle's operation on a toll highway without the required toll having been paid. The Authority may establish by rule a system of civil administrative adjudication to adjudicate only alleged instances of a vehicle's operation on a toll highway without the required toll having been paid, as detected by the Authority's video or photo surveillance system. In cases in which the operator of the vehicle is not the registered vehicle owner, the establishment of ownership of the vehicle creates a rebuttable presumption that the vehicle was being operated by an agent of the registered vehicle owner. If the registered vehicle owner liable for a violation under this Section was not the operator of the vehicle at the time of the violation, the owner may maintain an action for indemnification against the operator in the circuit court. Rules establishing a system of civil administrative adjudication must provide for written notice, by first class mail or other means provided by law, to the address of the registered owner of the cited vehicle as

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recorded with the Secretary of State or to the lessee of the cited vehicle at the last address known to the lessor of the cited vehicle at the time of the lease, of the alleged violation and an opportunity to be heard on the question of the violation and must provide for the establishment of a toll-free telephone number to receive inquiries concerning alleged violations. The notice shall also inform the registered vehicle owner that failure to contest in the manner and time provided shall be deemed an admission of liability and that a final order of liability may be entered on that admission. A duly authorized agent of the Authority may perform or execute the preparation, certification, affirmation, or mailing of the notice. A notice of violation, sworn or affirmed to or certified by a duly authorized agent of the Authority, or a facsimile of the notice, based upon an inspection of photographs, microphotographs, videotape, or other recorded images produced by a video or photo surveillance system, shall be admitted as prima facie evidence of the correctness of the facts contained in the notice or facsimile. Only civil fines, along with the corresponding outstanding toll, and costs may be imposed by administrative adjudication. A fine may be imposed under this paragraph only if a violation is established by a preponderance of the evidence. Judicial review of all final orders of the Authority under this paragraph shall be conducted in the circuit court of the county in which the administrative decision was rendered in accordance with the Administrative Review Law.

Any outstanding toll, fine, additional late payment fine, other sanction, or costs imposed, or part of any fine, other sanction, or costs imposed, remaining unpaid after the exhaustion of, or the failure to exhaust, judicial review procedures under the Administrative Review Law are a debt due and owing the Authority and may be collected in accordance with applicable law. After expiration of the period in which judicial review under the Administrative Review Law may be sought, unless stayed by a court of competent jurisdiction, a

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final order of the Authority under this subsection (a-5) may be enforced in the same manner as a judgment entered by a court of competent jurisdiction. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Authority may, with the approval of the Attorney General, retain a law firm or law firms with expertise in the collection of government fines and debts for the purpose of collecting fines, costs, and other moneys due under this subsection (a-5).

A system of civil administrative adjudication may also provide for a program of vehicle immobilization, tow, impoundment for the purpose of facilitating enforcement of any final order or orders of the Authority under this subsection (a-5) that result in a finding or liability for 5 or more violations after expiration of the period in which judicial review under the Administrative Review Law may be sought. The registered vehicle owner of a vehicle immobilized, towed, or impounded for nonpayment of a final order of the Authority under this subsection (a-5) shall have the right to request a before the Authority's civil administrative adjudicatory system to challenge the validity immobilization, tow, or impoundment. This hearing, however, shall not constitute a readjudication of the merits of previously adjudicated notices. Judicial review of all final orders of the Authority under this subsection (a-5) shall be conducted in the circuit court of the county in which the administrative decision was rendered in accordance with the Administrative Review Law.

No commercial entity that is the lessor of a vehicle under a written lease agreement shall be liable for an administrative notice of violation for toll evasion issued under this subsection (a-5) involving that vehicle during the period of the lease if the lessor provides a copy of the leasing agreement to the Authority within 21 days of the issue date on the notice of violation. The leasing agreement also must contain a provision or addendum informing the lessee that the lessee is liable for payment of all tolls and any fines for

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toll evasion. Each entity must also post a sign at the leasing counter notifying the lessee of that liability. The copy of the leasing agreement provided to the Authority must contain the name, address, and driver's license number of the lessee, as well as the check-out and return dates and times of the vehicle and the vehicle license plate number and vehicle make and model.

As used in this subsection (a-5), "lessor" includes commercial leasing and rental entities but does not include public passenger vehicle entities.

The Authority shall establish an amnesty program violations adjudicated under this subsection (a-5). Under the program, any person who has an outstanding notice of violation for toll evasion or a final order of a hearing officer for toll evasion dated prior to the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly and who pays to the Authority the full percentage amounts listed in this paragraph remaining due on the notice of violation or final order of the hearing officer and the full fees and costs paid by the Authority to the Secretary of State relating to suspension proceedings, if applicable, on or before 5:00 p.m., Central Standard Time, of the 60th day after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly shall not be required to pay more than the listed percentage of the original fine amount and outstanding toll as listed on the notice of violation or final order of the hearing officer and the full fees and costs paid by the Authority to the Secretary of State relating to suspension proceedings, if applicable. The payment percentage scale shall be as follows: a person with 25 or fewer violations shall be eligible for amnesty upon payment of 50% of the original fine amount and the outstanding tolls; a person with more than 25 but fewer than 51 violations shall be eligible for amnesty upon payment of 60% of the original fine amount and the outstanding tolls; and a person with 51 or more violations shall be eligible for amnesty upon payment of 75% of the original fine amount and the outstanding tolls. In such a

1 situation, the Executive Director of the Authority or his or 2 her designee is authorized and directed to waive any late fine 3 amount above the applicable percentage of the original fine 4 amount. Partial payment of the amount due shall not be a basis 5 to extend the amnesty payment deadline nor shall it act to 6 relieve the person of liability for payment of the late fine 7 amount. In order to receive amnesty, the full amount of the 8 applicable percentage of the original fine amount 9 outstanding toll remaining due on the notice of violation or final order of the hearing officer and the full fees and costs 10 11 paid by the Authority to the Secretary of State relating to 12 suspension proceedings, if applicable, must be paid in full by 13 5:00 p.m., Central Standard Time, of the 60th day after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 94th General 14 15 Assembly. This amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly has 16 no retroactive effect with regard to payments already tendered 17 to the Authority that were full payments or payments in an amount greater than the applicable percentage, and this Act 18 19 shall not be the basis for either a refund or a credit. This amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly does not apply to 20 toll evasion citations issued by the Illinois State Police or 21 22 other authorized law enforcement agencies and for which payment 23 may be due to or through the clerk of the circuit court. The 24 Authority shall adopt rules as necessary to implement the provisions of this amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly. 25 26 The Authority, by a resolution of the Board of Directors, shall 27 have the discretion to implement similar amnesty programs in 28 future. The Authority, at its discretion 29 consultation with the Attorney General, is further authorized 30 to settle an administrative fine or penalty if it determines that settling for less than the full amount is in the best 31 32 interests of the Authority after taking into account the following factors: (1) the merits of the Authority's claim 33 against the respondent; (2) the amount that can be collected 34 35 relative to the administrative fine or penalty owed by the respondent; (3) the cost of pursuing further enforcement or 36

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- collection action against the respondent; (4) the likelihood of collecting the full amount owed; and (5) the burden on the judiciary. The provisions in this Section may be extended to other toll facilities in the State of Illinois through a duly executed agreement between the Authority and the operator of the toll facility.
 - To prescribe rules and regulations applicable to traffic on highways under the jurisdiction of the Authority, concerning:
 - (1) Types of vehicles permitted to use such highways or parts thereof, and classification of such vehicles;
 - (2) Designation of the lanes of traffic to be used by different types of vehicles permitted upon said the highways;
 - (3) Stopping, standing, and parking of vehicles;
 - (4) Control of traffic by means of police officers or traffic control signals;
 - (5) Control or prohibition of processions, convoys, and assemblages of vehicles and persons;
 - Movement of traffic in one direction only on designated portions of said highways;
 - Control of the access, entrance, and exit of vehicles and persons to and from said highways; and
 - Preparation, location and installation of all prescribe further rules traffic signs; and to and regulations applicable to such traffic, concerning matters not provided for either in the foregoing enumeration or in Illinois Vehicle Code. Notice of such rules and regulations shall be posted conspicuously and displayed at appropriate points and at reasonable intervals along said highways, by clearly legible markers or signs, to provide notice of the existence of such rules and regulations to persons traveling on said highways. At each toll station, Authority shall make available, free of charge, pamphlets containing all of such rules and regulations.
 - (c) The Authority, in fixing the rate for tolls as provided

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in Section 19 of this Act for the privilege of using the said toll highways, is authorized and directed, in fixing such rates, to base the same upon annual estimates to be made, recorded and filed with the Authority. Said estimates shall include the following: The estimated total amount of the use of the toll highways; the estimated amount of the revenue to be derived therefrom, which said revenue, when added to all other receipts and income, will be sufficient to pay the expense of maintaining and operating said toll highways, including the administrative expenses of the Authority, and to discharge all obligations of the Authority as they become due and payable.

To accept from any municipality or political subdivision any lands, easements or rights in land needed for the operation, construction, relocation or maintenance of any toll highways, with or without payment therefor, and in its discretion to reimburse any such municipality or political subdivision out of its funds for any cost or expense incurred in the acquisition of land, easements or rights in land, in connection with the construction and relocation of the said toll highways, widening, extending roads, streets or avenues in connection therewith, or for the construction of any roads or streets forming extension to and connections with or between any toll highways, or for the cost or expense of widening, grading, surfacing or improving any existing streets or roads or the construction of any streets and roads forming extensions of or connections with any toll highways constructed, relocated, operated, maintained or regulated hereunder by the Authority. Where property owned by a municipality or political subdivision is necessary to the construction of an approved toll highway, if the Authority cannot reach an agreement with such municipality or political subdivision and if the use to which the property is being put in the hands of municipality or political subdivision is not essential to the existence or the administration of such municipality or political subdivision, the Authority may acquire the property by condemnation.

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1 (Source: P.A. 94-636, eff. 8-22-05.)

2 (605 ILCS 10/11) (from Ch. 121, par. 100-11)

Sec. 11. The Authority shall have power:

- (a) To enter upon lands, waters and premises in the State for the purpose of making surveys, soundings, drillings and examinations as may be necessary, expedient or convenient for the purposes of this Act, and such entry shall not be deemed to be a trespass, nor shall an entry for such purpose be deemed an entry under any condemnation proceedings which may be then pending; provided, however, that the Authority shall make reimbursement for any actual damage resulting to such lands, waters and premises as the result of such activities.
- 13 (b) To construct, maintain and operate stations for the 14 collection of tolls or charges upon and along any toll 15 highways.
 - (c) To provide for the collection of tolls and charges for the privilege of using the said toll highways as provided in Section 19 of this Act. Before it adopts an increase in the rates for toll, the Authority shall hold a public hearing at which any person may appear, express opinions, suggestions, or objections, or direct inquiries relating to the proposed increase. Any person may submit a written statement to the Authority at the hearing, whether appearing in person or not. The hearing shall be held in the county in which the proposed increase of the rates is to take place. The Authority shall give notice of the hearing by advertisement on 3 successive days at least 15 days prior to the date of the hearing in a daily newspaper of general circulation within the county within which the hearing is held. The notice shall state the date, time, and place of the hearing, shall contain a description of the proposed increase, and shall specify how interested persons may obtain copies of any reports, resolutions, or certificates describing the basis on which the proposed change, alteration, or modification was calculated. After consideration of any statements filed or oral opinions, suggestions, objections, or

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inquiries made at the hearing, the Authority may proceed to adopt the proposed increase of the rates for toll. No change or alteration in or modification of the rates for toll shall be effective unless at least 30 days prior to the effective date of such rates notice thereof shall be given to the public by publication in a newspaper of general circulation, and such notice, or notices, thereof shall be posted and publicly displayed at each and every toll station upon or along said toll highways.

- (d) To construct, at the Authority's discretion, grade separations at intersections with any railroads, waterways, street railways, streets, thoroughfares, public roads or highways intersected by the said toll highways, and to change and adjust the lines and grades thereof so as to accommodate the same to the design of such grade separation and to construct interchange improvements. The Authority is authorized to provide such grade separations or interchange improvements at its own cost or to enter into contracts or agreements with reference to division of cost therefor with any municipality or political subdivision of the State of Illinois, or with the Federal Government, or any agency thereof, or with any corporation, individual, firm, person or association. Where such structures have been built by the Authority and a local highway agency did not enter into an agreement to the contrary, the Authority shall maintain the entire structure, including the road surface, at the Authority's expense.
- (e) To contract with and grant concessions to or lease or license to any person, partnership, firm, association or corporation so desiring the use of any part of any toll highways, excluding the paved portion thereof, but including the right of way adjoining, under, or over said paved portion for the placing of telephone, telegraph, electric, power lines and other utilities, and for the placing of pipe lines, and to enter into operating agreements with or to contract with and grant concessions to or to lease to any person, partnership, firm, association or corporation so desiring the use of any

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part of the toll highways, excluding the paved portion thereof, but including the right of way adjoining, or over said paved portion for motor fuel service stations and facilities, garages, stores and restaurants, or for any other lawful purpose, and to fix the terms, conditions, rents, rates and charges for such use.

The Authority shall also have power to establish reasonable regulations for the installation, construction, maintenance, repair, renewal, relocation and removal of pipes, conduits, cables, wires, towers, poles and other equipment and appliances (herein called public utilities) of any public utility as defined in the Public Utilities Act along, over or under any toll road project. Whenever the Authority shall determine that it is necessary that any such public utility facilities which now are located in, on, along, over or under any project or projects be relocated or removed entirely from any such project or projects, the public utility owning or operating such facilities shall relocate or remove the same in accordance with the order of the Authority. All costs and expenses of such relocation or removal, including the cost of installing such facilities in a new location or locations, and the cost of any land or lands, or interest in land, or any other rights required to accomplish such relocation or removal shall be ascertained and paid by the Authority as a part of the cost of any such project or projects, and further, there shall be no rent, fee or other charge of any kind imposed upon the public utility owning or operating any facilities ordered relocated on the properties of the said Authority and the said Authority shall grant to the said public utility owning or operating said facilities and its successors and assigns the right to operate the same in the new location or locations for as long a period and upon the same terms and conditions as it had the right to maintain and operate such facilities in their former location or locations.

(f) To enter into an intergovernmental agreement or contract with a unit of local government or other public or

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- 1 private entity for the collection, enforcement, and
- 2 administration of tolls, fees, revenue, and violations.
- 3 (Source: P.A. 94-636, eff. 8-22-05.)

4 (605 ILCS 10/19) (from Ch. 121, par. 100-19)

Sec. 19. The Authority shall fix and revise from time to time, tolls or charges or rates for the privilege of using each of the toll highways constructed pursuant to this Act. The Authority shall provide that a vehicle owned or operated by the Suburban Bus Division of the Regional Transportation Authority is exempt from tolls if the vehicle is being used to transport passengers for hire. Such tolls shall be so fixed and adjusted at rates calculated to provide the lowest reasonable toll rates that will provide funds sufficient with other revenues of the Authority to pay, (a) the cost of the construction of a toll highway authorized by joint resolution of the General Assembly pursuant to Section 14.1 and the reconstruction, major repairs or improvements of toll highways, (b) the cost of maintaining, regulating and operating the toll repairing, including only the necessary expenses of the Authority, and (c) the principal of all bonds, interest thereon and all sinking requirements and other requirements provided fund resolutions authorizing the issuance of the bonds as they shall become due. The use and disposition of any sinking or reserve fund shall be subject to such regulation as may be provided in the resolution or trust indenture authorizing the issuance of the bonds. Subject to the provisions of any resolution or trust indenture authorizing the issuance of bonds any moneys in any such sinking fund in excess of an amount equal to one year's interest on the bonds then outstanding secured by such sinking fund may be applied to the purchase or redemption of bonds. All such bonds so redeemed or purchased shall forthwith be cancelled and shall not again be issued. No person shall be permitted to use any toll highway without paying the toll established under this Section except when on official Toll Highway Authority business which includes police and other

1 emergency vehicles. However, any law enforcement 2 vehicle, fire department vehicle, or other emergency vehicle 3 that is plainly marked shall not be required to pay a toll to 4 use a toll highway. A law enforcement, fire protection, or 5 emergency services officer driving a law enforcement, fire 6 protection, or emergency services agency vehicle that is not 7 plainly marked must present an Official Permit Card which the 8 law enforcement, fire protection, or emergency services 9 officer receives from his or her law enforcement, fire protection, or emergency services agency in order to use a toll 10 highway without paying the toll. A law enforcement, fire 11 12 protection, or emergency services agency must apply to the 13 Authority to receive a permit, and the Authority shall adopt rules for the issuance of a permit, that allows all 14 15 enforcement, fire protection, or emergency services agency 16 vehicles of the law enforcement, fire protection, or emergency 17 services agency that are not plainly marked to use any toll highway without paying the toll established under this Section. 18 19 The Authority shall maintain in its office a list of all 20 persons that are authorized to use any toll highway without charge when on official business of the Authority and such list 21 22 shall be open to the public for inspection.

Among other matters, this amendatory Act of 1990 is intended to clarify and confirm the prior intent of the General Assembly to allow toll revenues from the toll highway system to be used to pay a portion of the cost of the construction of the North-South Toll Highway authorized by Senate Joint Resolution 122 of the 83rd General Assembly in 1984.

29 (Source: P.A. 90-152, eff. 7-23-97.)

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30 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon 31 becoming law.